

IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING YOUR BENEFITS

Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC), Federal Additional Compensation (FAC) and Extended Benefits (EB) Programs

The temporary, federal unemployment benefit programs ***expire on June 2, 2010***. These programs include the Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC) program, the Federal Additional Compensation (FAC) program and the federal funding of the Extended Benefits (EB) program. For these programs to continue beyond June 2nd, Congress needed to pass and the President sign into law, additional legislation extending the current end date of these programs. This did not happen.

On Friday, May 28, the House of Representatives did approve an extension of these programs. However, the bill now must be considered and voted upon by the Senate, which is scheduled to begin discussions on June 7th. Since new legislation was not passed, the June 2, 2010 end date for these temporary benefit programs is in effect. To understand how this may affect you, please see the information below for the program on which you are currently collecting benefits. Your enrollment information is included to the right of your mailing address on the back of this letter.

Eligibility options provided are based on filing dates only; all other program eligibility requirements must also be met.

1. **Regular State Unemployment Insurance (UI)** – If your final weekly claim was filed for the week that ended:
 - Saturday, May 22 or earlier – you may be eligible for the first tier of EUC, up to twenty (20) weeks of benefits;
 - Saturday, May 29 – you are not eligible for EUC, but may be eligible for up to two (2) weeks of benefits under EB;
 - Saturday, June 5 – you are not eligible for EUC, but you may be eligible for up to one (1) week of benefits under EB;
To begin receiving EUC or EB benefits, you must complete and return the EUC application that was mailed separately.
 - Saturday, June 12 or later – no additional benefits will be available.
2. **EUC Benefits** – If you are currently enrolled under any tier of EUC, you may continue to file claims and collect any remaining benefits from that tier (but not beyond November 6, 2010). After May 29, once you have collected all of the benefits available to you under your current EUC tier, you cannot move into another tier. If your final weekly claim under an EUC tier was filed for the week that ended:
 - Saturday, May 29 or earlier – you may be eligible to move to the next tier of EUC or to EB. Individuals on Tier 1 will automatically move to Tier 2, if eligible. Individuals on Tier 2 will move to Tier 3. Individuals on Tier 3 will move to EB (if not previously collected), but only through Saturday, June 12.
 - Saturday, June 5 – you may be eligible for one (1) week of benefits under EB;
 - Saturday, June 12 or later – no additional benefits will be available.
3. **EB Benefits** – If you are currently collecting benefits under the EB program, you will be able to submit claims up through the week ending Saturday, June 12, 2010. The EB program ends for **all** EB participants at that time – there is no phase out period.

*For individuals moving into the EB program for the first time, please note that the work search requirement is different than that of the regular state UI or federal EUC programs. At least **four (4)** employer contacts must be made **each** week, and information on these contacts **included on** your weekly claim form. The work search form will be mailed to you and **must** be completed and returned by mail. EB claims cannot be filed on the web or by telephone. Failure to meet the EB work search requirement and provide the required work search information **will** result in the denial of benefits.*

4. **Federal Additional Compensation (FAC)** – the additional \$25/week FAC payment will continue to be paid weekly through December 11, 2010, as long as you also receive benefits in the same week from one of the above programs. However, this payment is only for eligible benefit years; your Benefit Year End (BYE) must be June 5, 2011 or earlier in order to receive this payment.

The above information is based on current federal law. The Department of Labor will continue to monitor any proposed changes to these programs by Congress and will post this information on the department's website at www.Maine.gov/labor . We encourage you to visit this site for the latest updates on this topic as well as for information about other available agency services and programs.